

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00044 141853Z

73

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 TRSE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 /092 W

----- 025875

R 141500Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4314

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 044

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :PINT,PFOR,RH,SF

SUBJ :AFRIKAANS PRESS CRITICIZES SMITH GOVT FOR
CURRENT IMPASSE IN RHODESIAN NEGOTIATIONS

REF :CAPE TOWN 0036

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED,SOUTH AFRICAN
ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PRESS APPEARS TO BE GENERALLY CRITICAL OF
RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN CURRENT IMPASSE IN SETTLEMENT
TALKS (REFTEL). WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT, AND LIKELY MORE
REFLECTIVE OF SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT OPINION,IS LINE BEING TAKEN
BY AFRIKAANS PRESS. END SUMMARY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00044 141853Z

2. DIE BURGER,CAPE ORGAN OF NATIONAL PARTY (NP). HAS REACTED

RELATIVELY MILDLEY TO CONTINUED GUERILLA ACTIVITY AND JAN 11 KILLING OF SOUTH AFRICAN POLICEMAN. PAPER HAS SAID THAT DISSENSION WITHIN AFRICAN NATIONALIST RANKS IS CAUSE OF CONTINUED INCIDENTS, AND TASK OF BLACK LEADERS IS DIFFICULT. EDITORIAL OF JAN 14 ADVISED THAT 'WHITES SHOULD MAKE CAREFUL ALLOWANCE FOR THIS AND TRY TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM TO ACT STRONGLY'.

3. MOST INFLUENTIAL AFRIKAANS DAILY IN TRANSVAAL HAS TAKEN IAN SMITH TO TASK FOR THIS STATEMENT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MAJORITY RULE IN HIS LIFETIME. JANUARY 10 DIE TRANSVALER EDITORIALIZED. 'IAN SMITH MUST NOW REALIZE THAT BLACKS ARE GOING TO RULE...OR VIOLENCE WILL BREAK LOOSE.' EDITORIAL FOLLOWING DAY SAID IT WOULD BE 'GREAT PITY' IF SOUTH AFRICA WAS FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN SUPPORT OF PRESENT RHODESIAN GOVT AND PEACE. PAPER MADE CLEAR THAT CHOICE WAS NOT BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE, BUT 'BETWEEN WAR AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.'

4. SUNDAY AFRIKAANS PAPER RAPPORT, WHICH HAS LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSPAPER, SUPPORTED DIE TRANSVALER'S POSITION. IN EDITORIAL JAN 12 RAPPORT SAID, 'THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS REPRESENTS OFFICIAL VIEW OF GOVERNMENT.'

RAPPORT POINTED OUT DIFFERENCE IN RHODESIAN AND SAG POLITICAL POLICIES, DESCRIBING FORMER AS 'POWER-SHARING' AND LATTER AS 'SEPARATE FREEDOMY'. EDITORIAL STATED MAJORITY RULE INHERENT IN RHODESIAN POLICY, AND MOVEMENT IN THIS DIRECTION COULD NOT BE REVERSED OR PACE CONTROLLED. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED THAT SMITH AND HIS GOVT MUST REALIZE THESE IMPLICATIONS, 'HOWEVER PAINFUL' OR FACE 'BLOODY CONFRONTATION'.

5. COMMENT: SIMILARITY OF POSITIONS TAKEN BY NATIONAL PARTY-SUPPORTING AFRIKAANS NEWSPAPERS IS STRONG INDICATION OF OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POSITION. RATHER TORTURED EXPOSITION OF BASIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SAG AND RHODESIAN POLITICAL POLICY, AND EMPHASIS THAT CHOICE IS NOT MERELY BETWEEN BLACK AND WHITE, PROVIDE RATIONALE FOR POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT FOR SMITH GOVT. IF IT COMES TO THAT. TONE AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00044 141853Z

SUBSTANCE OF COMMENT IS YET ANOTHER SIGNAL THAT SAG SEES BLACK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA AS INEVITABLE, AND THAT SMITH MUST ACCEPT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS IF PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IS TO BE ACHIEVED.

HURD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMISTICE, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAPET00044
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750014-0561
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750155/aaaabvtd.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAPE TOWN 0036
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2003 by McShalBA>; APPROVED <17 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: :AFRIKAANS PRESS CRITICIZES SMITH GOVT FOR CURRENT IMPASSE IN RHODESIAN NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, RH, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006